

NEWS & NOTES

NATIONAL • STATE • COUNTY

HUMBOLDT

Dr. Monna M. Sheller has been appointed health officer for Humboldt County, taking the place of Dr. Carl T. Wallace who has been serving part-time as temporary health officer for more than a year.

The new health officer, who received an M.P.H. degree at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1959, was a resident in public health with the Clackamas County Health Department in Oregon before taking her new post.

LOS ANGELES

Mr. Harry Nelson, medical editor of the *Los Angeles Times*, recently received an award from the Medical Research Association of California "for his singular contribution in the field of science"; and Dr. J. Earl Thomas, a physiologist at Loma Linda University, was honored for his "contribution to the advancement of medical research."

Dr. Clayton G. Loosli, dean of the University of Southern California School of Medicine, was elected president of the association for the year 1963-64.

SAN FRANCISCO

A postgraduate course in **Recent Advances in Gastroenterology** will be given May 27-29, 1963, in San Francisco by the American Gastroenterological Association in

cooperation with the University of California School of Medicine and Continuing Education in Medicine and Health Sciences. The third triennial course of this type to be offered by the association, it will be held at U. C. Medical Center. It precedes the annual meeting of the **American Gastroenterological Association**, May 30-June 1, at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. John R. Gamble, 655 Sutter Street, San Francisco 2.

Program directors for the course are Dr. Dwight L. Wilbur and Dr. Leon Goldman. Dr. Gamble and Dr. John V. Carbone are associate directors.

GENERAL

A significant new move to provide handling of government-financed programs within the private enterprise sector of the economy was made February 1 with the establishment of an "insured" **prepaid medical care program for Welfare recipients** in Santa Barbara County.

The new "Santa Barbara Plan"—devised, backed and sponsored by the medical society there—provides for professional services handled on a prepayment basis by California Physicians' Service for some 3,000 recipients of Public Assistance Medical Care and Medical Aid for the Aged. This pilot program, approved by the State Department of Social Welfare on an experimental basis within Santa Barbara County only, will involve approximately \$350,000 annual cost and provides the first sizable test of such an approach in a major California area.

The physicians of Santa Barbara sought and gained approval for the plan so that these programs could be handled **within the framework of competitive enterprise**. The doctors expressed the feeling that only through such mechanisms can the profession maintain the control and direction vital to proper case management. Studies and negotiations continued for almost a year, with the County ultimately agreeing that the proposed program would result in more and better health care for the taxpayers' money.

MAA Rates for Nursing Homes

State-prescribed rates for Kerr-Mills Medical Assistance for the Aged patients of California nursing homes went into effect February 1, setting new maximums to replace the October, 1961, "freeze" level used since the program's inception January 1, 1962. A 90-day moratorium on the change has been granted those county welfare departments that had requested negotiation with the state for higher rates.

The new structure, established by the Department of Finance, sets two "ceilings," one for basic care and the other for extensive care, and provides a three-dollar differential favoring Northern California over Southern California.

Basic care maximums are \$219 north of the Tehachapis and \$216 south. A six-point criterion for "extensive care" provides for maximums of \$272 and \$269, north and south.

Originally, rates were based on local county levels as they had existed in October, 1961, with "unusual circumstances" permitting the basic \$255 maximum to be raised, in some instances, to the \$300 level.

The State Board of Social Welfare, which administers the federal-state-county cost-sharing program of

aid for the needy and near-needy aged, has prepared detailed descriptions of categories under which a patient is considered qualified for "extensive care" support. Copies may be obtained from each county welfare medical consultant.

Briefly, the criteria for "extensive care" payments are the need for:

1. Hand or special feeding.
2. Operation of special equipment, such as oxygen, intermittent pressure machines, etc.
3. Care for incontinence and colostomies.
4. Time-consuming special skills required for maintenance of the patient in bed under physician's orders.
5. Nursing and related services for achieving or maintaining physical independence.
6. Special diets, including low sodium, diabetic, low fat or low cholesterol.

Counties have been given until May 1 to complete classification of patients, whose physicians should acquaint themselves with the criteria.

The plan as evolved utilizes the same fee schedule followed by welfare programs throughout the state (currently 1957 RVS at \$4), but the coverage will be handled through C.P.S. on a no-profit, no-loss basis, with any possible deficits being underwritten by the physicians of Santa Barbara.

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A course for nursing aides in nursing homes and related facilities outlined by committees of the California League for Nursing and the Joint Council to Improve the Health Care of the Aged is now being used as a guide by two state agencies.

Prepared by an advisory committee under the chairmanship of Walter Batchelder, M.D., executive secretary of the joint council and a member of the staff of the California Medical Association, the outline is serving as a criterion for

both the State Department of Education and the State Department of Employment.

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The Ninth Congress of the **Pan-Pacific Surgical Association** will be held November 5-13, 1963, in Honolulu, and the **first Pan-Pacific Mobile Educational Lecture Seminar** is scheduled for the period from November 13 to December 10, 1963, in New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Japan.

The seminar through the Pacific area offers, for the first time, scientific meetings in each country presenting medical material unique to the areas.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. F. J. Pinkerton, Director General, Pan-Pacific Surgical Association, Suite 236, Alexander Young Building, Honolulu 13, Hawaii.

EDUCATION NOTICES

POSTGRADUATE

THIS BULLETIN of the dates of postgraduate education programs and the meetings of various medical organizations in California is supplied by the Committee on Postgraduate Activities of the California Medical Association. In order that they may be listed here, please send communications relating to your future medical or surgical programs to Postgraduate Activities, California Medical Association, 693 Sutter Street, San Francisco 2.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES

- Feb. 14-March 21—**Dermatology in Clinical Practice.** Thursday afternoons. 12 hours. \$50.
- Feb. 20-March 2—**Clinical Postgraduate Program in Mexico City.** 18 hours. \$100.
- Feb. 21-23—**Proctology and Sigmoidoscopy.** Thursday-Saturday. 15½ hours. \$50, Friday-Saturday \$30.
- March 16-April 7—**Clinical Postgraduate Program in Israel and Greece.** 24 hours. \$200.
- March 22-23—**The Broadening Scope of Psychosomatic Medicine.** Friday-Saturday. 12 hours. \$25.
- March 25-29—**Lower Extremities Prosthetics.** Monday-Friday. 40 hours. \$125.
- April 12-May 4—**Clinical Postgraduate Program in Japan and Hong Kong.** 33 hours. \$200.
- April 20—**Inhalation Therapy.** Saturday. 6 hours.*
- April 27-28—**The Narcotics Problem.** Saturday-Sunday. 12 hours. \$5.
- April 29-May 3—**Upper Extremities Prosthetics.** Monday-Friday. 40 hours. \$125.
- May 6-10—**Immunology and Allergies.** Monday-Friday. Long Beach V. A. Hospital. 43 hours. \$100 or \$25 per day.
- May 11—**Management of Medical Emergencies.** Saturday. 8 hours.*
- May 12—**Management of Obstetrical Emergencies.** Sunday. 8 hours.*

- May 25—**Aging in a Democracy.** Saturday. 8 hours. \$2.50.
- May 26—**Trends in Geriatric Therapy.** Sunday. 8 hours.*
- June 14-15—**Pediatric Ophthalmology.** Friday-Saturday. 18 hours.*
- June 21-22—**Diseases of the Kidney.** Friday-Saturday. 18 hours.*
- June 24-28—**Functional Bracing of the Upper Extremities.** Monday-Friday. 40 hours. \$125.
- June 28-29—**Minor Surgery.** Friday-Saturday. 12 hours.*
- Dates by Arrangement—**Clinical Traineeships—Anesthesia, Dermatology and Pediatrics, Anatomy, Radioisotopes, Urology:** 2 weeks, \$150; 4 weeks, \$250. Minimum period, 2 weeks.

For information on courses for physicians or ancillary personnel, contact: Thomas H. Sternberg, M.D., Assistant Dean and Head, Department of Continuing Education in Medicine and Health Sciences, U.C.L.A. Medical Center, Los Angeles 24, BRadshaw 2-8911, or GRanite 8-9711, Ext. 2115.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

- February 15-16—**Clinics in Neurology.** Friday-Saturday. 12 hours. \$45.
- February 25-March 1—**Course for Physicians in General Practice.** Mount Zion Hospital, San Francisco. Monday-Friday. 35 hours. \$100, including lunches Monday-Thursday.
- March 2-3—**Multiple Injuries and Trauma.** 14 hours. \$40.
- March 13-17—**Diagnostic Radiology.** Wednesday-Sunday. 30 hours. \$110, including lunches, or \$25 a day.
- March 14-April 11—**Man to Man.** Thursday evenings. 5 hours. \$1.50 each lecture. \$7.50 series.
- March 29-30—**Diabetes of Many Types.** Friday-Saturday. 13 hours. \$40.
- April 18-20—**General Surgery.** Thursday-Saturday. 14 hours. \$50.
- April 26-28—**Recent Advances in Pediatrics, Neurology and Hematology.** Friday-Sunday. 16 hours. \$50.
- May 2-3—**Ear, Nose and Throat.** Thursday-Friday.*†
- May 16-17—**Proctology.** Thursday-Friday. 14 hours. \$50.
- May 18-19—**Clinical Orthopedics: The Foot and Ankle.** Saturday-Sunday.*†
- May 24-26—**Law and the Practice of Medicine.** Friday-Sunday.*†

*Fees to be announced.

†Hours to be announced.